

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel, comprising:
 - a transparent substrate;
 - a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the transparent substrate;
 - a plurality of dielectric elements located between the electroluminescent elements; and
 - a plurality of conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate.
2. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electroluminescent elements are in the form of elongate strips of electroluminescent material.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements in

such a way that the charge on adjacent dielectric elements oscillates and all of the electroluminescent elements are activated simultaneously.

5. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements in pairs so that alternate electroluminescent elements are activated.

6. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements, wherein three or more adjacent dielectric elements are coupled to the same voltage, and the spacing between activated electroluminescent elements is at least two.

7. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alternating voltage source connected to the conductive elements, wherein adjacent electroluminescent elements are sequentially activated to give the impression that a light source moves along the panel.

8. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein each dielectric element extends at a proximal side to the surface of the transparent substrate at a gap between adjacent electroluminescent elements, and protrudes at a distal side further away from the substrate than the electroluminescent elements.

9. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 8, wherein the conductive elements are located on the distal side of the dielectric elements.

10. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein each conductive element is located at the surface of the transparent substrate in a gap between adjacent electroluminescent elements, and is completely enclosed by a dielectric element so that it does not contact an electroluminescent element.

11. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electroluminescent elements emit light of different colours.

12. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a first array of electroluminescent elements arranged to emit light of a first colour, and a second array of electroluminescent elements arranged to emit light of a second colour.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a third array of electroluminescent elements arranged to emit light of a third colour.

15. (Previously Presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 12, wherein the electroluminescent elements in different arrays are activatable simultaneously so that the panel appears to emit light of a colour made up of a combination of the colours emitted by the different arrays.

16. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 14, wherein the intensity of light emitted by different arrays is variable relative to the light emitted by the other array(s).

17. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a diffuser layer.

18. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a transparent layer arranged on the opposite side of the panel to the transparent substrate.

19. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 18, arranged to emit light through the transparent layer and the transparent substrate.

20. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of selectively actuatable arrays of electroluminescent elements, wherein different shapes are illuminated by different arrays.

21. (Original) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 20, wherein the arrays are at least partially superimposed on one another.

22. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dielectric elements are located between every other pair of electroluminescent

elements, each dielectric element is in contact with one of the plurality of conductive elements, and each of the plurality of conductive elements is located in each gap between adjacent electroluminescent elements not occupied by a dielectric element.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transparent substrate is a curved surface.

25. (Previously presented) A light-emitting panel as claimed in claim 24, wherein the curved surface is a cylindrical surface.

26. (Previously presented) A sign panel, comprising:

a light-emitting panel including

a transparent substrate,

a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the transparent substrate,

a plurality of dielectric elements located between the electroluminescent elements, and

a plurality of conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate; and

a transparent, retroreflective layer arranged on the opposite side of the transparent substrate to the electroluminescent elements.

27. (Original) A sign panel as claimed in claim 26, further comprising a photoresistor on the surface of the transparent substrate for detecting the level of ambient light falling on the panel.

28. (Original) A method of manufacturing a light-emitting panel, comprising:

depositing a plurality of electroluminescent elements on a transparent substrate;

depositing a plurality of dielectric elements on the substrate in the gaps between the electroluminescent elements so that the dielectric elements extend further away from the substrate than the electroluminescent elements; and

depositing a conductive element on the top of each dielectric element.

29. (Previously presented) A method of emitting light from a light-emitting panel, wherein the panel includes a transparent substrate, a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the transparent substrate, a plurality of dielectric elements located between the electroluminescent elements, and a plurality of conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate, the method comprising:

supplying an alternating voltage to alternate conductive elements so that each of the electroluminescent elements is provided with an alternating voltage across it and emits light.

30. (Previously presented) A method of emitting light from a light-emitting panel, wherein the panel includes a transparent substrate, a plurality of electroluminescent elements on the surface of the transparent substrate, a plurality of dielectric elements located between the electroluminescent elements, and a plurality of conductive elements in contact with the dielectric elements, arranged so as to apply a voltage across each of the plurality of electroluminescent elements in a direction substantially parallel to the surface of the transparent substrate, the method comprising:

supplying an alternating voltage to adjacent pairs of the conductive elements so as to activate a first set of alternate electroluminescent elements to emit light.

31. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising altering the adjacent pairs of conductive elements to which the alternating voltage is supplied so as to activate a second set of alternate electroluminescent elements to emit light.